



Newsletter

MAY 1984

New Movement in Solidarity with Puerto Rican Independence & Socialism

Box 295,2520 N.Lincoln,Chicago IL 60614/POB 2512,Brooklyn NY 11202/3543 18th St #17 San Fran. CA 94110/POB 60925, LA CA 90060

GRAND JURIES: Legal Means, Repressive Ends

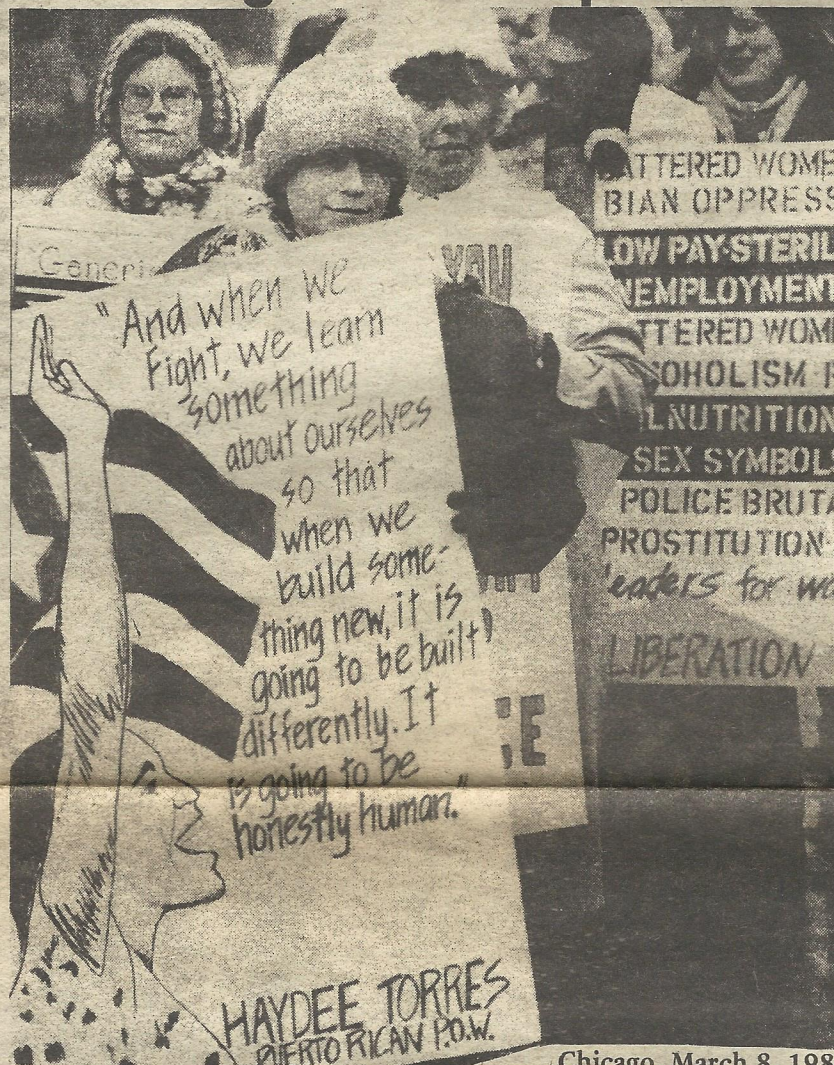
In April, 1984, 9 Puerto Rican, Mexicano and North American activists were jailed or sentenced to jail for criminal contempt of a federal grand jury. Patriotic Puerto Ricans and progressive supporters have always refused to collaborate with this illegitimate intrusion and investigation of the movement to end US colonial control of Puerto Rico. The new, precedent-setting charge of criminal contempt allows the US to move beyond the 18-month charge of civil contempt used in the 60s and 70s to coerce testimony. Criminal contempt, with an unlimited sentence entirely in the hands of the judge, amounts to internment of activists for their political beliefs, as in Ireland and South Africa. The trend in the recent cases concerning the Puerto Rican independence movement has been to cut off the opportunity for independence activists and supporters to explain their political views--their refusal to collaborate. The most chilling new feature of these cases is the use of the anonymous jury to decide the case of the MLN 5. Judge Sifton told the jury they were being protected from terrorists, guaranteeing that the jury would find the MLN 5 guilty.

Since 1976, grand juries have been the most subtle "legal" tool of the US government. The grand jury has several aims: to obtain information on the clandestine armed forces, to intimidate and coerce known public activists, to demonstrate the consequences of support for national liberation, and to paint the Puerto Rican independence movement as criminals and terrorists. The government investigations hope to jail political activists who support the strategy of people's war as it develops among the Puerto Rican people.

We must fight the grand jury! The first principle--and the only effective strategy to

continued on p. 2

International Women's Day Means Fight U.S. Imperialism!



Chicago, March 8, 1984

This year, women across the US made International Women's Day an important act of resistance.

In Chicago, the New Movement took action in a march led by women from DNA (Disarm Now Action), an anti-war group. DNA consistently carries out militant protests against corporate and military targets. The nearly 200 women and men began their march at IBM, one of the largest producers of war weapons. The march also targeted Marshall Field's department store, the British Consulate, a Loop porno shop, the Federal Building and the Chicago MCC, where 3 Puerto Rican POWs are being held. Josefina Rodriguez, mother of POWs Lucy and Alicia Rodriguez, spoke about women who are not afraid to go to jail and denounced the inhuman conditions for the patriots at MCC. The climax of the Chicago march was the Marine Corps Recruiting

Office, where 7 women had occupied the main offices. Five of the women were arrested for trespassing, but charges were later dropped on orders from Washington, DC. The march moved to the side alley, surrounding the police paddy wagons and chanting support for the arrested women.

In San Francisco, 150-200 women demonstrated at the Presidio Army Base, led by Women Against Imperialism. Chanting "Built on blood, built on war, we know what this place is for!" 75 women and children entered the base carrying portraits of women freedom fighters like POW Haydee Torres, the FSLN's Luisa Amanda Espinosa, and North American anti-imperialist Judy Clark. They tore down the American flag in front of the 6th Army HQ. They were threatened by mass arrest, but the women marched behind a huge FSLN flag through the line of MPs. They doused blood on

continued on p. 4

U.S. Armed Forces At War in Puerto Rico & Caribbean

On April 20, 30,000 US Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Army troops and nuclear-powered aircraft carriers, destroyers, amphibious units and Strategic Air Command planes began Ocean Venture '84 war maneuvers. The Pentagon announced that "the exercise is designed to demonstrate and improve the capability of the US to protect and maintain the free use of the sea lines of communication in the Caribbean Basin and the Gulf of Mexico." Ocean Venture is expected to extend operations from Vieques, Puerto Rico, to Mexico, and around again to Trinidad and Tobago; it is a show of military force and a contribution to actual US war against the region.

On the night before the exercise began, a clandestine organization named Red Guerrilla Resistance bombed the Officers' Club at the Washington, DC, Navy Yard. They said the action was a call to protest Ocean Venture and ended by calling for independence and socialism for Puerto Rico.

Ocean Venture is a bi-annual set of war maneuvers. Ocean Venture 1982 was a dress rehearsal for the invasion of Grenada. Ileana Carrión of the Puerto Rican United Front against Militarism, on a speaking tour of US cities in April, said "Ocean Venture 1984 is a strategic move of the US towards full-scale war in the region. The importance of the exercise this year is that it covers up the mobilization of troops to Central America. Under the pretext of military games, troops can enter Central America. Many of the counterrevolutionary guerrilla bands have entered Nicaragua under cover of the most recent exercises...

"Also huge numbers of soldiers are participating--more this year than in the previous 6 years...One of the most important aspects is that the US has to protect--given the Central

continued on p. 4

Grand Juries

defeat this new criminalization and internment of political activists--is to refuse to collaborate in any way with these destructive "investigations." Talking to the grand jury or the FBI, using the claim that "we are public activists in public organizations--we have nothing to hide", or that "we are more valuable in the community, not in jail," will only give more power and legitimacy to the federal apparatus of repression. What possible good can we be to the struggles for freedom, to defeat US imperialism, if we sell ourselves to the US government in order to avoid repression? We can't allow the US "anti-terrorist" campaign to divide our movement. The clandestine organizations are now the prime targets, the biggest threat to the US government's capacity to carry out its imperialist plans. Our movement is doomed to failure if we repudiate these forces in a rush to protect our legal operations. It is only the unified wall of silence by the Puerto Rican, Mexicano and North American anti-imperialist supporters--irrespective of their position within the movement--that has thwarted the government's search-and-destroy mission. We can be sure that the grand jury will be used against other progressive movements (like the Sanctuary Movement) that the US government views as a threat. This makes it all the more urgent to learn from the strong resistance to these attacks by the Puerto Rican independence movement and its allies.

BUILD A WALL OF RESISTANCE



DON'T TALK TO THE F.B.I.

Repression Escalates Against Indo

Fifteen Puerto Rican Prisoners of War, 8 political prisoners in US jails, 5 more grand jury resisters to be imprisoned shortly -- this is the reality of US government repression against the Puerto Rican independence movement as of May, 1984. But what does this really represent? Why is it happening? What can we do?

Without exaggerating, we can say that we are seeing a systematic and coordinated attempt by the US to destroy the Puerto Rican movement for national liberation, in order to maintain US colonial control over Puerto Rico and to counter the threat posed by the revolutionary independence movement in the US. The government clearly understands

that in order to destroy the independence movement it must destroy the armed clandestine forces and also those organizations and individuals who support them. The threat posed by the clandestine movement and the strategy of people's war they project goes beyond the material damage they have been able to inflict (although in some cases, the damage has been substantial--as in the case of the Macheteros' destruction of 9 jet planes worth \$45 million). Above all, the clandestine political-military forces represent, as Juan Antonio Corretjer puts it, "the will to win," the courage and determination of a colonized people to be free and the method to make their freedom a

reality. This is what the US government wants to destroy, the belief in the possibility and necessity for liberation.

In 1978 a secret international conference was held in San Juan, Puerto Rico. At that time the FALN was carrying out scores of bombings in the U.S. and several clandestine organizations had emerged in Puerto Rico. The US called together counter-insurgency experts from around the world to plan the destruction of the independence movement. The concrete provisions of this conference are visibly in operation today in the stepped-up use of the grand juries to intern activists for political beliefs, the new repressive conditions against the POWs, and the media



MLN 5: Andrés Rosado, Steven Guerra, María Cueto, Julio Rosado, Ricardo Romero

MLN 5 to Jail

On Tuesday, April 10, María Cueto, Steven Guerra, Andrés Rosado, Julio Rosado and Ricardo Romero--the MLN 5--began 3-year sentences for refusing to testify before the grand jury. María Cueto and Ricardo Romero, both Mexicanos, are leading members of the Movimiento de Liberación Nacional-Mexicano; and Steven Guerra and Julio Rosado are active in the Movimiento de Liberación Nacional-Puertorriqueño. Andrés Rosado is a health worker and a supporter of Puerto Rican independence. All are public activists who have led in developing support for the growing people's war for Puerto Rican independence and the socialist reunification of Mexico.

The MLN 5 are the first of 10 activists to be jailed for cri-

minal contempt of the grand jury. These 5 resisters face three years as political prisoners for no other reason than that they have stood firm in their revolutionary principles.

On the day their sentences began, demonstrations were held in Denver, Colorado, in San Diego, and in San Francisco, where 8 members of the New Movement and the National Committee to Free Puerto Rican POWs were attacked by the police and arrested. In Chicago, a Vigil/March proceeded from the Federal Building to the MCC, where Puerto Rican POWs Edwin Cortés, Alberto Rodríguez and Alejandrina Torres are held, both to highlight their deplorable conditions and to show support for the MLN 5.

Noya-Cintrón Win Support in P.R.

On Monday, April 9, Carlos Noya of the Puerto Rican Socialist League, and Federico Cintrón Fiallo of the CUCRE (Unitary Committee against Repression), were sentenced to two years each for refusing to testify before the federal grand jury. This is the first time that independentistas from Puerto Rico have been subpoenaed to a grand jury in the US, to face imprisonment in exile.

The government attack on these two leaders is similar to the attack on the MLN 5. In both cases the state hopes to silence the public movement's support for armed clandestine independence organizations.

Noya and Cintrón were dragged before the Brooklyn grand jury because the US knew that they would never be convicted in Puerto Rico. But the US government's plans were thwarted at the sentencing hearing on Friday, April 6. On that day, Noya and Cintrón called dignitaries from many sectors of the independence movement to testify on their behalf and to say why their imprisonment would be a gross violation of human rights and international law. Luis F. Camacho, former president of the Puerto Rican Bar Association, said any grand jury investigating the Puerto Rican independence movement is repressive. Nelson Cordero, former president of the federal grand jury in Puerto Rico that imprisoned Norberto Cintrón (Federico's brother) said that

Independence Movement

campaign designed to portray the movement as terrorists in the eyes of North American and world opinion.

As the US moves further toward war, they must secure a stable base at home to prevent a repetition of the 60s and 70s, when they fought the Vietnamese abroad and the Black liberation and anti-war movements inside US borders. In order to prevent this kind of crisis, the US is moving now to destroy the independence movement along with other national liberation movements. In addition, the Sanctuary Movement, a national network of progressive church people who shelter political refugees from El Salvador, Guatemala, etc, has recently come under

attack in Texas and in the Midwest.

In order to build their base of support, the US is introducing "legal" changes such as anonymous juries, criminal contempt charges, special conditions of incarceration for prisoners. The US also must increase its ability to infiltrate, survey and disrupt the opposition through revised FBI guidelines and provisions for search warrants and eavesdropping. Finally, it must develop a patriotic mentality among white people to support these moves--e.g., the decision by the Greensboro jury that the Klan killings were justified because they killed communists. On these pages are several articles which detail the scope of this new level of repression.

he had resigned from the grand jury in protest and that he would never testify to any grand jury. Bishop Antulio Parilla, a leader of the progressive Catholic movement in Puerto Rico, Luis Nieves Falcón, the prominent sociologist, and renowned historian and intellectual Benjamin Torres also testified. Ruben Berrios of the Puerto Rican Independence Party said that his party is committed to working for independence within the electoral process, but he would never collaborate with the grand jury.

This show of support was extremely important in defeating the US attempts to divide independentistas who support armed struggle away from the rest of the movement.

Miller & Baraldini Sentenced to 3 Years

On Thursday, April 19, Shelley Miller of the New Movement in Solidarity with Puerto Rican Independence and Socialism, and Silvia Baraldini, of May 19th Communist Organization, were sentenced to 3 years imprisonment for criminal contempt of a federal grand jury. Shelley and Silvia are the first North Americans in 30 years to face long prison terms for support of the Puerto Rican independence movement.

Shelley and Silvia's stance is a significant step forward for our movement against US imperialism. Their refusal to collaborate with this illegitimate attempt by the colonizing US government to destroy a move-

ment for national liberation is an example of what we North Americans can do. The Puerto Rican independence movement has underlined the impact of this stance in these comments by Juan Antonio Corretjer, Secretary-General of the Puerto Rican Socialist League: "Truly this represents a great deal to us. In the nearly 50 years of relationships with the progressive movements and the North American left, Lenin's famous position that the proletariat of the imperialist country was the primary ally of a colonial people fighting for independence had been shaken. But the correctness of Lenin's position is brought to life when you take the independence struggle of Puerto Rico and solidarity with the armed struggle with the seriousness of thought and uprightness of conduct you have done."

continued on p. 4



Shelley Miller

Silvia Baraldini

Puerto Rican POWs: NO! to inhuman conditions



POWs Edwin Cortés, Alejandrina Torres, Alberto Rodríguez — Chicago MCC, 1984

All of the 14 Puerto Rican Prisoners of War are undergoing extreme mistreatment -- a calculated campaign to break the resistance of the freedom fighters who have been imprisoned for their struggle to win national liberation. On orders from the highest levels in Washington, DC, each prisoner has been sent as far as possible from family, friends and community. In each case the conditions of incarceration have been designed to cut off communication and the leadership the POWs offer their people in struggle.

Haydeé Torres and Lucy Rodríguez were moved to Alderson, West Virginia and installed in the Davis Hall behavior modification unit. They were told they would be in "administrative detention" permanently, locked in their cells 24 hours a day, handcuffed even to go to the shower, in a featureless white cell with no access to fresh air or sunshine, absolutely no contact with other prisoners. It is believed that Dylcia Pagan will be moved there as well. POWs Ricardo Jiménez and Elizam Escobar were transferred from Illinois prisons to Federal Penitentiaries in Otisville, New York and Oxford, Wisconsin, respectively. Both are being held in segregation and have not been permitted visits, correspondence or reading materials. Oscar López-Rivera was informed that all his oral conversations in Leavenworth Federal Prison were intercepted and recorded. Carlos Alberto Torres, moved to Talladega, Alabama, was informed by the warden that he would be on permanent administrative detention as a "security risk," because he was

"convicted of being a member of the FALN, a terrorist group dedicated to overthrowing legitimate US authority over Puerto Rico, which is a US protectorate (sic)."

The 3 POWs at Chicago MCC, still awaiting trial 10 months after their arrest, suffered from the same "administrative detention." Alejandrina Torres recently suffered another heart problem, but she has not seen a cardiologist since she was first imprisoned. Edwin Cortés and Alberto Rodríguez have also consistently been denied needed medical care. Judge Plunkett recently ordered prison authorities to end these repressive conditions and move the three POWs to general population.

These sinister changes in the conditions of incarceration for the POWs are part of the systematic campaign against the independence movement. The IRA prisoners in Northern Ireland and the RAF prisoners in Germany have been victims of a similar campaign of sensory deprivation and mind control, which has frequently led to "suicide" of the imprisoned freedom fighters. The Puerto Rican independence movement denounced mind control experiments on Pedro Albizu Campos and other Nationalist Party members imprisoned in the 1950s. The US government will stop at nothing, including torture, brain-washing and murder (as in November, 1979 when POW Angel Rodriguez Cristobal was killed in his prison cell in Tallahassee, Florida) in their attempts to break the fierce resistance and combativeness of the Puerto Rican POWs and end their leadership of their people.

U.S. Armed Forces At War

continued from p. 1

American conflicts-- a whole sweep of oil reserves from the US to the Gulf of Mexico, through the Caribbean to Trinidad and Tobago. Both Ocean Venture and Solid Shield (held in 1981 & 1983) in the most recent years comprise part of a

new stage in the maneuvers. Previously, Vieques and Puerto Rico were centers for training. Now, however, they are part of the strategy for war."

Ocean Venture pinpoints Puerto Rico as a central pivot for US military control of the

entire Caribbean and Central American region. They hope to rely on Puerto Rico as the day of full-scale war draws closer. Puerto Rican national guard troops, said Ileana Carrión, are right now in charge of training Honduran and other right-wing

armies of Central America and the Caribbean. Puerto Rico is the coordinating center for the So. Atlantic fleet, and the communications center for a network of spy satellites, planes and submarines.

50,000 Protest "Ocean Venture"

On May 1, over 50,000 Puerto Ricans marched in San Juan demanding an end to Ocean Venture '84 and the militarization of Puerto Rico. The march was united around the slogans "Navy Out of Vieques" and "Against the Imperialists, an Independent People." Organized by the Puerto Rican Independence Party, the march was supported by the entire spectrum of the independence movement. Literature from the Macheteros, a clandestine group, was distributed.

At the rally Ruben Berrios, president of the Puerto Rican Independence Party, stated "We will not allow any Puerto Rican to fight in Nicaragua or any Central American nation... the jails in Puerto Rico will be unable to hold all the Puerto Ricans that oppose mandatory military service."

During late April and early May fishermen in Vieques sailed out in their small boats to disrupt the naval maneuvers taking place there as part of

San Juan, Puerto Rico - 50,000 March against Ocean Venture



Ocean Venture. Unlike previous years, the boats sailed out in ones or twos so as to prevent massive arrests, and, according to Carlos Zenon, head of the Vieques Fishermen's Association, "to prevent their

use as part of the practice exercises." Zenon also denounced the maneuvers as preparations to invade Nicaragua.

IN NEW YORK

Eleven North Americans

were arrested in New York on May 5 protesting Ocean Venture. They had taken over the control tower of the USS Intrepid, a huge aircraft carrier now converted to a war museum in the New York City harbor. Slogans calling for the independence of Puerto Rico were painted on the side of the boat. As a demonstration called by the New Movement approached the boat, a huge Puerto Rican flag was unfurled from the control tower. The 11 were arrested and taken away after more than 2 hours of chanting and speaking to the crowd.

IN SAN FRANCISCO...

May 19, Armed Forces Day: In a demonstration sponsored by the New Movement, 175 people tried to board the USS Horn in a nonviolent direct action. They were viciously attacked by the SF Police and three were seriously injured. Three others were arrested for dousing a Marine Corps armored personnel carrier ("Peacekeeper") with blood.

GRAND JURIES

Pam Fadem Charged with criminal contempt

continued from p. 3

At the close of the criminal contempt trial of Silvia Baraldini and Shelley Miller, U.S. Attorney Raymond J. Dearie said: "...the refusals of 9 people to testify seriously jeopardized the panel's inquiry. But the investigation is not limited to these individuals and we are hopeful of making continuing

progress."

The next step of this unfolding repression campaign was to subpoena Pam Fadem, an anti-imperialist health worker from Austin, Texas, the third North American and 10th person to be targeted by the "FALN grand jury."

In Pam Fadem's case, the grand jury subpoena was obtained on the basis of an "ex parte" affidavit--a secret document given only to the judge and not available to the defendant or her lawyers. This "secret" info was leaked by the FBI to the Texas press, and provided the basis of a news story linking Pam to "unsolved thefts of dynamite." On March 18, Pam appeared in court, only to affirm that she would never collaborate. Bypassing the civil contempt citation, the government immediately charged her with criminal contempt, as they have with all the other resisters. She will go to trial on Monday, July 2.

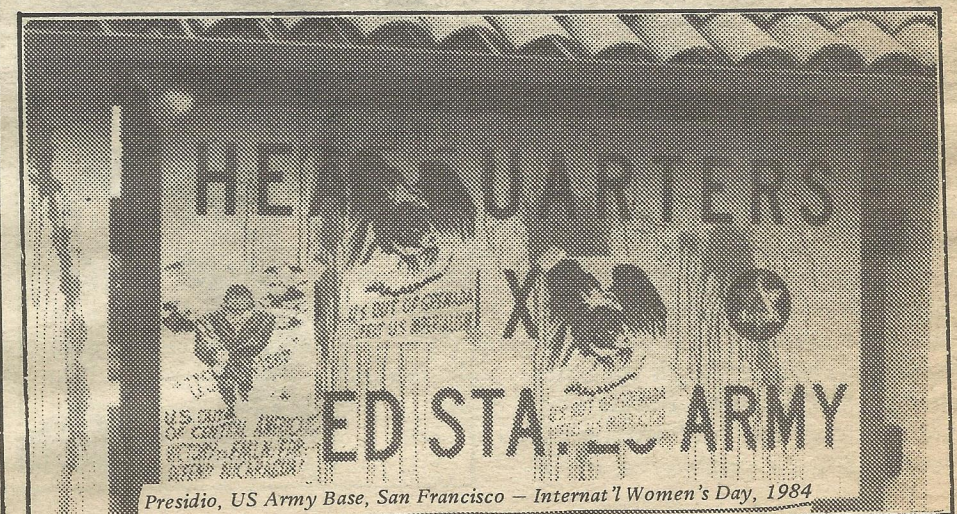
International Women's Day

continued from p. 1

Army vehicles and marched to join together with the demonstration outside the Presidio gates. In Chicago and San Francisco, we took our fight beyond dissent into real resistance to the war machine.

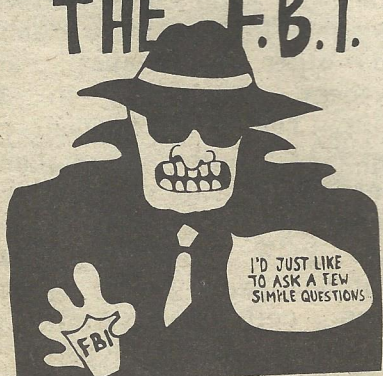
In New York, and Chicago, cultural programs were held by the National Committee and the New Movement in honor of Doña Consuelo Lee de Corretjer, the noted Puerto Rican indepen-

dence activist and poet, compañera of Juan Antonio Corretjer and leader of the Puerto Rican Socialist League. Doña Consuelo sent a special message from Puerto Rico: "Greetings on International Women's Day! We are mothers, daughters and wives. We are compañeras in the kitchen, carrying the rifle or the pen-- in short, we are comrades. What a great and glorious title!"



Presidio, US Army Base, San Francisco - Internat'l Women's Day, 1984

THE REAL TERRORISTS:
THE F.B.I.



STOP GRAND JURY AND FBI
ATTACKS ON THE PUERTO RICAN
AND MEXICANO MOVEMENTS!